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INDIA.

Report from Bombay—Bill of health issued to U. S. S. Isla de Cuba—Plague mortality.

Acting Asst. Surg. Edward H. Hume reports, April 9, as follows:

It has not been customary to issue bills of health to American naval vessels leaving this port, but in accordance with Department letter dated Washington, February 9, 1904, on request of Assistant Surgeon Murphy, of the U. S. S. *Isla de Cuba*, en route from Manila to Pensacola, a supplemental bill of health was issued. * * *

The plague mortality is very high this week, amounting to 1,135, giving a death rate of 76.05 per mille per annum from this cause alone. The total number of deaths for the week ended April 5 was 1,785, with a death rate of 119.61. This is better than in the same week last year, when plague deaths numbered 1,827, total deaths numbered 2,604, and the death rate was 174.49.

Reports from Calcutta—Inspection of vessel—Plague.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Sprague reports, April 7, as follows:

During the week ended April 2, 1904, bill of health was issued to one vessel, the steamship *M. S. Dollar*, bound for San Francisco with a total crew of 53, of which 42 were Chinese. The effects of the latter were disinfected. There was one rejection. The vessel was controlled by an agency recently established in this city and was the first of their boats bound for America. When it was learned that she was bound for one of our ports she was partially loaded and fumigation was not attempted. She did not touch at dock during her stay in port. The captain informed me that she would stop at six other ports before reaching San Francisco, about July 1, 1904, and it is quite probable that the good effects of fumigation here would have been overcome at some or all of those places.

A copy of the letter of instructions was forwarded to the agency, and they have agreed to follow them in the future.

PLAGUE.

There were 5,481 cases of plague and 4,736 deaths in the Presidency of Bengal for the week ended March 26, 1904. The statement of deaths in Calcutta for the week ended April 2, 1904, places the number of deaths from cholera at 101 and now rates the disease as epidemic. All the cases are confined to native population.

The deaths from plague have increased to 544 with 590 cases, but there is no evidence of infection in the European part of the city.

JAPAN.

Reports from Yokohama—Inspection of vessels.

Assistant Surgeon Moore reports, April 1 and 9, as follows:

During the week ended March 26, 1904, bills of health were issued to 4 vessels having an aggregate personnel of 511 crew and 1,227 passengers; 498 steerage passengers were bathed, and 663 pieces of baggage were disinfected.